Mr. Les Payne, Newsroom
Newsday
550 Stewart Ave.
Garden City, N.Y. 11530

1/1/76

Dear Les,

AM I glad you are back! And sorry there is an important, topical book you must do!

So I begin, without having or taking time to organize my thoughts by going back to what I asked you before you went to Africa, is there another like you? I sure as hell need and want one -now.

If you do come down this coming week I hope your time includes some for discussion.

All this is in the context of the black members of the House committee and their pretty irresponsible, unprincipled and otherwise stupid acts and abdications. Now I know it extends to other blacks, including those in various leadership roles or various kinds. They all stand to be hurt very much by all of this. I am not at all sure this would not, with most of them, be a good idea - so they can be replaced by those who conceive themselves less the copy of the whites they emulate.

There is also the question what do I do, particularly with what I have and am getting and will get. This breaks into two parts each of which subdivides: what others can know I am getting and can duplicate and what they do not know and I think are not likely to be able to snaffle. But if they do, with either or both, there is much they cannot and will not understand, much that even Jim is not in a position to, as I'm confident he can better than any other one. Including the officials from whom I am getting it.

Months ago we spotted a record that showed the FBI had made an index of the prosecutorial material. It took seven months but I have it, I've delayed going over it because it was given to me, when they could stall this no longer, without any identification. I've asked for and not gotten the identifications so I've started working through it anyway. There are three of these indexes. I've gone through F on the first only. Some fantastic stuff in it that is not understood by those processing it. This in turn ranges from what to now is a complete authentication - to now suppressed - of my own reconstruction to their hidden knowledge of the presence of thosesix Intaders.While all the names are obliterated I'll tell you what you did not tell me, that Cabbage was one and that a woman among them is Clara Ester. Because they do not spell this out I'm making a confident guess. Cabbage's name is a guess. It is masked.Another begins with B. Not Bevel, who also seems to have been in it. Not one with a white Pontiac, either. That is another name, of a Lemoyne student. (From this you can see I need all the names.) Naturally Bailey knew noething of this. It says. By omission. It includes the need to interview those I told you I want to interview, those I've come to so far indicating exactly what I was sure they knew. (They appear to have missed Caldwell, Colfield, too.Do you really think missed?)

Already I have an adequate handle for bypassing, even aborting this fink committee if others are willing, particularly others with a committee of proper jurisdiction - and willing to face great pressure, which there would be.

I'm not going to skip around in this stuff and to date I have not, although you'd never believe how seemingly out of order the FBI's files are. I've already gone over more that 1,500 of the HQ records. If I had them in separate file folders, which would be ideal, they would take up an entire file cabinet. They are about 1/8 of what has been promised and that is far from what I want and am going for. This index is to a third that much but different files. We are after them, too. On the index, while the thickness of each notebook can vary, I've gone through 1 of 9 only to now. Even speeding takes much time.

While you were away I believe I wrote you that McCullough rushed to the body. Ester joined him immediately. But I think he and she vamoosed fast. I have some pix now, too.

Except for this and a hasty skimming of the Post I've been on that one notebook of indexes for more than 8 hours. In this bitter weather I do not exercise myself or force the blood to work outside. After some exercycling I'll be on the 2d. And I plan to concentrate on them until I've gone over them all. Hope you all have a good year,